

Re: Maya Long-Uresti

To whom it concerns,

March 8, 2017

I highly recommend Maya Long-Uresti on any creative project. I have had the pleasure to work with Maya as her art teacher for the last 2 years. She is a highly intelligent, complex and sensitive person. These qualities lend themselves to her search for being an individual and an artist. They also cause her to reflect on her role in society on a larger scale. I have had a number of conversations with Maya about art and it's role in her life. She is currently taking an Art II class with me and under a rigorous investigation into her own art making process, through both art production and reflection Maya is growing in to a deep and authentic artist and maker.

She is extremely articulate and honest when expressing ideas and opinions in both, one on one conversations and discussions as a class. She has an intuitive understanding of formal and conceptual aspects of art. Maya would gain immensely from the intense and rigorous focus on the arts in any creative project. I have observed Maya solve creative problems with personal conviction. She has self-awareness and a willingness to learn about art, specifically design. Maya would be an asset in any intensive setting focused on the study and production of art and design.

Maya is currently working on a Public Art internship with myself, and a group of Nueva students. We are painting a conceptual mural of the cycle of pollination and the importance of bees and insects. She is an exceptional worker, a natural leader and enthusiastic about the project. She is always responsible and on time, invested and professional. She is a joy to work with.

Maya is committed to exploring herself as an artist. She has a passionate relationship to her own work and is in some way at constant attention to that connection either by working with her hands on an art object, talking about her ideas, or entrenched in how to make her life as an artist authentic, real, and honest. Maya is extremely self aware and critical of her work, she often knows what she needs to improve so that her art may become stronger. Maya is open to formal critical feedback from her instructors and peers; she has said it is important for her to receive constructive feedback so that she can broaden her knowledge about her own work. I believe both Maya and anyone she works with would benefit from her attendance.

Sincerely,

Melissa Jones Arts Educator

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